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E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: KSCA TBIO WHO EI

SUBJECT: IRISH RESPONSE TO POLIO DEMARCHE

REF: STATE 225847

On January 9, Post delivered reftel demarche regarding additional funding for the Polio Eradication Initiative (PEI) to David Weakliam, Health Development Specialist with Development Cooperation Ireland (DCI, the USAID equivalent agency within the Department of Foreign Affairs.) On January 16, Weakliam informed Post that the GOI saw polio eradication as a priority and that the allocation for 2006 would be a significant increase on the euro 500,000 allocated in 2005. Weakliam indicated that funding had been put aside for this purpose, but that a final allocation figure will be unavailable until the DCI budget is approved in March.

KENNY